

From: Jefe Calhoun
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/7/01 7:30pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I just wanted to express my concern over the suggested settlement in this case. The proposed settlement is a farce. It will cost Microsoft very little, and (ironically) actually extend their monopoly by hooking school age users. If Microsoft were truly interested in helping educate children they would donate the money as a lump sum to the schools with no strings attached for the schools to use as they see fit. Schools need better facilities, better pay for teachers, books and many other things more than they need used computers running Microsoft programs. Please, please, please do not be duped by Microsoft - their settlement is no punishment at all.

Microsoft is a danger not only to business, but also in many respects to society. Their goal is to completely control technology and content at every possible level in the pursuit of extracting profit - there is no altruistic motive in any Microsoft action. Without going into great detail the result would be that ultimately we will no longer have democracy but technocracy, with all power focused in the monopolistic hands of Microsoft. A real settlement would see Microsoft broken up, permanently and irrevocably. That is in the best interest of all citizens of the United States and the world. I realize this may seem a radical opinion, but truly the ramifications of allowing Microsoft to continue in its current course of operation are frightening. I hope you can at least consider what the future could hold if no action is taken in this regard - at the very least please do more in depth research so that you can truly understand the consequences.

It does not seem that those involved in passing the judgement have done so to an adequate degree.

I again wish to stress my extreme alarm and distress that the given settlement is being seriously considered. I beg you to reject it.

Sincerely,
Jeff Singer

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